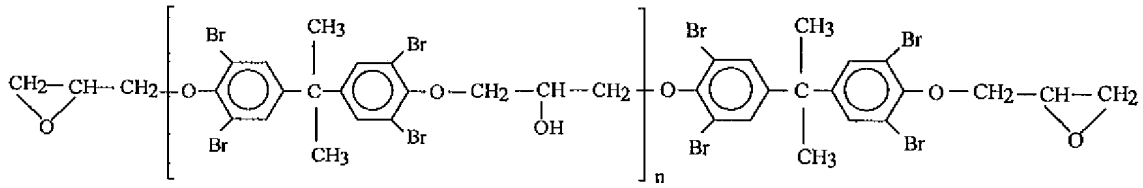
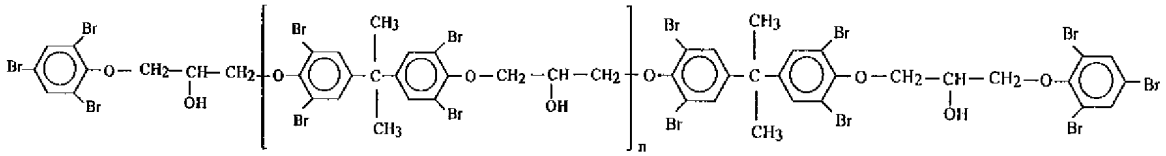
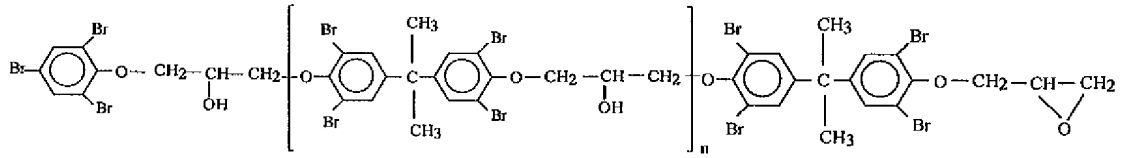
1. (Currently amended) A flame ~~Flame~~ retardant for polymeric compositions, minimizing corrosion of metallic parts, prepared by the method claim 22, which comprises a mixture of compounds of formula (I) and/or formula (II) and/or formula (III):



Formula (I)



Formula (II)



Formula (III)

wherein n is an integer; and

wherein at least 80 mol% of the end groups of all three formulae in the mixture are tribromophenyl-oxo-2-hydroxypropyl groups, and at most 20 mol% of said end groups are glycidyl groups;

said retardant being characterized by:

a molecular weight of between 7,000 and 50,000 Daltons;

a free tribromophenol content less than 0.1 wt% of the whole flame retardant; and

a content of organic solvents, with boiling point lower than 250°C, lower than 100 ppm of the whole flame retardant~~, which minimizes corrosion of metallic parts~~.

2. (Currently amended) A flame ~~Flame~~ retardant according to claim 1, wherein 85 to 100 mol% of the end groups are tribromophenyl-oxo-2-hydroxypropyl groups and 0 to 15 mol % of the end groups are glycidyl groups.

3. (Currently amended) A flame ~~Flame~~ retardant according to claim 1, wherein the content of said organic solvents with boiling point lower than 250°C, is lower than 50 ppm.

4. (Currently amended) A flame ~~Flame~~ retardant according to claim 1, comprising from 70 to 100 mol% of modified brominated epoxides BEs of formula (II), from 30 to 0 mol% of partly modified BEs of formula (III), and from 10 to 0 mol% of unmodified BEs of formula (I).

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A flame ~~Flame~~ retardant according to claim 1, having molecular weight higher than 7,000 and lower than 30,000 Daltons.

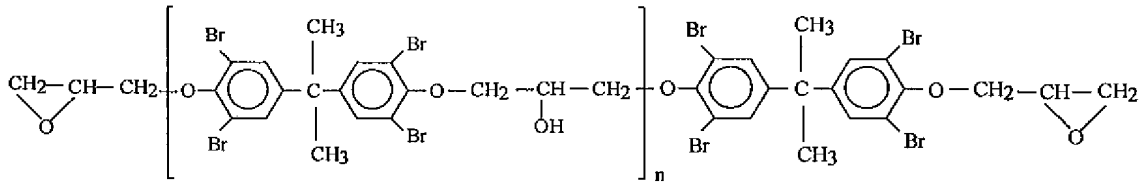
7. (Currently amended) A flame ~~Flame~~ retardant according to claim 1, having an acid number less than 1 mg KOH/g.

8. (Currently amended) A flame ~~Flame~~ retardant according to claim 7, having an acid number less than 0.5 mg KOH/g.

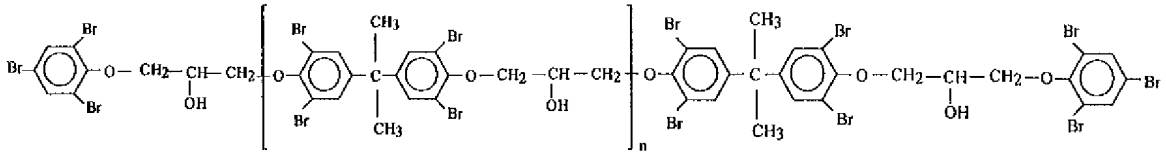
9. (Currently amended) A flame ~~Flame~~ retardant according to claim 1, having an epoxy equivalent of more than 10,000.

10. (Currently Amended) A polymeric compositions, comprising a base polymer ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of ~~among~~ polyethylene terephthalate, ~~or~~ polybutylene terephthalate, ~~or~~ mixtures of polyethylene terephthalate with polybutylene terephthalate, ~~thereof, or~~ polyamides, and ~~or~~ polycarbonate ~~and~~ or its alloys, and further comprising at least one flame retardant according to claim 1.

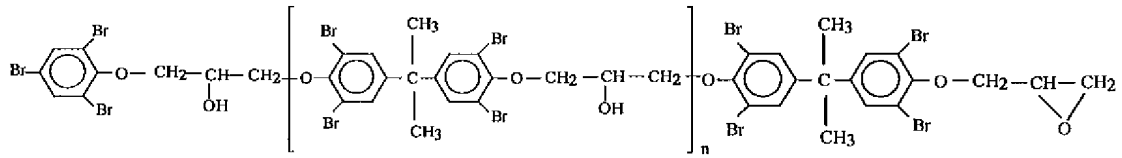
~~for polymeric compositions, which comprises a mixture of compounds of formula (I) and/or formula (II) and/or formula (III):~~



~~Formula (I)~~



~~Formula (II)~~



~~Formula (III)~~

~~wherein n is an integer; and~~

~~wherein at least 80 mol% of the end groups of all three formulae in the mixture are tribromophenyl-oxo-2-hydroxypropyl-groups, and at most 20 mol% of said end groups are glycidyl groups, ;~~

~~said retardant being characterized by:~~

~~a molecular weight of between 7,000 and 50,000 Daltons;~~

~~a free tribromophenol content less than 0.1 wt% of the whole flame retardant; and~~

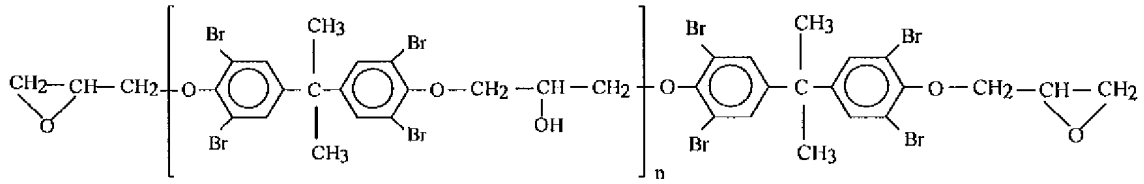
~~a content of organic solvents, with boiling point lower than 250°C, lower than 100 ppm of the whole flame retardant, which minimizes corrosion of metallic parts.~~

Claims 11-19 (Canceled).

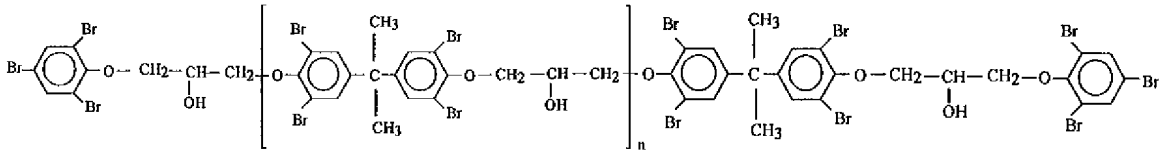
20. (Currently amended) A polymeric ~~Polymeric~~ composition according to claim 10, further comprising hindered phenol antioxidants.

21. (Currently amended) A polymeric ~~Polymeric~~ compositions according to claim 10, further comprising fillers and/or glass reinforcement and/or antioxidants and/or lubricants and/or pigments and/or anti-dripping agents and/or grades of talc that act as nucleating agents and that reduce the injection molding cycle time.

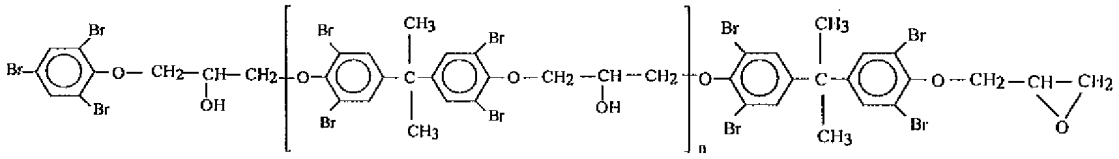
22. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ for the preparation of a flame retardants for polymeric compositions comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, mixtures of polyethylene terephthalate with polybutylene terephthalate, polyamides, and polycarbone or its alloys, which retardant comprises a mixture of compounds of formula (I) and/or formula (II) and/or formula (III):



Formula (I)



Formula (II)



Formula (III)

wherein n is an integer; and

wherein at least 80 mol% of the end groups of all three formulae in the mixture are tribromophenyl-oxo-2-hydroxypropyl groups, and at most 20 mol% of said end groups are glycidyl groups;

said retardant being characterized by:

a molecular weight of between 7,000 and 50,000 Daltons;

a free tribromophenol content less than 0.1 wt% of the whole flame retardant~~,~~; and

a content of organic solvents, with boiling point lower than 250°C, lower than 100 ppm of the whole flame retardant, which minimizes corrosion of metallic parts;

said method comprising the step of preparing ~~reacting~~ low molecular weight brominated epoxide LMW BE, having a molecular weight of between 650 and 3,500 Daltons, and a content of organic solvents, with ~~a~~ boiling point lower than 250°C, lower than 100 ppm of the LMW BE, and reacting said LMW BE with tetrabromobisphenol-A (TBBA), and with a component selected from tribromophenol (TBP), tribromophenylglycidyl ether or a mixture thereof, in the presence of a catalyst, wherein said reaction takes place without addition of any solvent at a temperature of 100 to 250°C.

23. (Canceled)